

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Beer et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No. : 10/561,134

Filed : December 15, 2005

Examiner:

For : OPTICAL AMPLIFYING MATERIALS

Date: February 22, 2007

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Commissioner for Patents
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Attention: OFFICE of PCT LEGAL ADMINISTRATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir/Madame:

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted along with a response to a Decision mailed to Applicants on January 24, 2007.

In the Decision, the submission of a proper Preliminary Amendment was required to avoid additional claims fees based on the 13 claims of record (and the multiple dependencies contained therein).

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application, Claims 1-13 have been canceled and new claims 14 to 33 have been added: